

The Evening World

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THE CITY LOOKS TO ALL ITS REPRESENTATIVES AT ALBANY.

CHANGE in transit fares and readjustment of transit contracts in this city may be necessary.

But New York does not propose to have these automatically handed down from Albany if it can be prevented.

The way to prevent it is for Senators and Assemblymen to form a solid and cohesive opposition. The city serves notice on its representatives that it expects every man to do his duty in this respect. To preserve any semblance of home rule, the city is forced to resort to political action in the Legislature. But there is no reason why this political action should be in any way partisan.

It matters not whether a New York representative is a Republican or a Democrat, a machine member or an independent, New York expects him to act for the city and against any up-State organization seeking to dominate the city's affairs.

The New York City coalition should be formed for effective action and with absolute disregard for party. If necessary it should caucus and then unite in support of the majority decision of the caucus. With the help of other cities similarly menaced, there is a way to beat this unjustifiable attack upon urban home rule.

Senator Sherman believes Members of Congress cannot live on their salaries. Few try to. Many work the clerk hire graft with "worthless secretaries."

NEW YORK'S NEW BISHOP.

THE Rev. William T. Manning, rector of Trinity Church, was yesterday elected Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of New York to succeed the late Bishop Burch.

Dr. Manning was elected despite a sensational campaign carried on against him by anti-British elements who denounced his candidacy because he was born in England. This anti-British campaign culminated yesterday in an editorial attack so imbecile, as well as unprincipled, that Dr. Manning's election would be welcomed, if for nothing else, as a rebuke to the newspaper that so far degraded itself in its efforts to defeat him.

Dr. Manning was chosen Bishop of New York not because he was born in England, but because he has proved himself an able worker and leader in the Protestant Episcopal Church in America.

As a clergyman he has been conspicuous for his liberality, without sacrificing either his dignity or his zeal as a pleader for religion.

It was Dr. Manning who recently explained his idea of twentieth century religion as religion that stands for "gladness, personal rights and freedom and all that adds to the goodness and fulness of human life."

A churchman with that idea of religion is pretty close to New York's idea of a good Bishop, as far as fundamentals go.

Dr. Manning's distinguished career and notable gifts of leadership are sound guarantees of the rest.

In future when New Yorkers wish to convey the idea that some one worked a double-cross they can simplify it by saying he "Mewhined."

WHICHEVER SIDE GIVES THE BRIBE

NEW YORK is more disgusted than surprised at the revelations of police bribery.

But New York should not forget that there are two parties to every crime of bribery. There can be no taking of bribes if there are no givers of bribes.

If the police have been taking money for their intercession in industrial quarrels, then one of the interested parties has been giving bribes.

The bribe-giver in such cases is essentially an anarchist in his disregard for law. It is certain that if unionists resorted to bribery of the police they would be roundly denounced as "Boishevists" and enemies of good government.

But where is the essential difference between bribery by an organization of employers and bribery by an association of employees?

Public opinion should be as quick to condemn the essential anarchy of bribery on one side of the industrial line-up as it would be on the other.

Public prosecutors should be no less prompt with the prosecution in any case where it is possible to establish the facts.

Make a little more room for Samuel Untermyer and Attorney General Palmer. They're just warming up to it.

"CAP" STREETER.

"CAP" STREETER, Chicago's squatter sovereign, is dead and is to be buried.

He was one of the most interesting characters in the history of the city.

For years he fought for his "squatter rights" to valuable property on the lake front which was washed up from the bottom of Lake Michigan. He

fought through the courts and he fought with bullets. He recruited an "army" of down-and-outs who were willing to take a chance for the sake of a possible victory.

Finally the courts decided that in the case of "Cap" Streeter possession did not constitute a claim to ownership. The old man died broken-hearted.

Before he died he expressed the wish to be buried in the land he claimed as his own. There is a chance that his wish will be respected. Chicago can well afford to gratify the whim. "Cap" Streeter's grave in the busy downtown section of Chicago would be a place of interest.

Chicago's history has few incidents of more universal human appeal than the struggle of old "Cap" Streeter which a suitable memorial might commemorate.

WIDENING THE BREACH.

A PART from the specific local matter involved, consider Gov. Miller's attitude toward this city in another light:

What's to be gained by strengthening the impression that up-State New York has no interest in Metropolitan New York beyond collecting 70 per cent. of State taxes from it and meddling with high legislative hand from time to time in its affairs?

Why intensify the feeling that self-government in Greater New York is regarded with indifference, or worse, by government at Albany?

Why widen a breach that ought to be closed? The State of New York is the most populous in the Union. In wealth, industry and progress it claims first rank.

No Commonwealth ought to be more united in seeking the welfare of every part of its population.

Half that population, in the case of this State, is concentrated in one city which is the greatest centre of business, finance and commerce in the Western Hemisphere.

Geographically considered as port and railway terminal, the City of New York is linked more closely with a neighboring State than with the greater part of the State of New York.

Again and again discussion of port development has shown how naturally Manhattan Island, Staten Island, Long Island and New Jersey group themselves together in all plans for the future of the Port of New York.

Is the city to be forced to the belief that something other than geography tends to alienate its interests from those of its own State?

Must it be more and more on the defensive against its own State Legislature?

Must it more and more distrust government from Albany as government by representatives of sections whose aims are hostile and incursive?

That is not a prospect one would wish for the Empire State.

Yet Gov. Miller seems to think it natural and to be desired.

A Sing Sing convict escaped from his keeper in the subway jam yesterday. Another example of "out of the frying pan into the fire."

ESTIMATED DEFENSE FOR HOME RULE.

To the Editor of The Evening World:

Gov. Miller's ideas on rapid transit in the cities of New York State seem certain not only of mighty road treatment in the Legislature but probable defeat. The Senate alone holds the fate of legislation along the lines indicated by the Governor through the simple and avowed expedient of having the three State Senators from Erie County (Buffalo) voting solidly with the delegation of twenty-three from New York City. This total of twenty-six constitutes a majority in the Senate, the full membership of which numbers fifty-one.

It seems the height of conservatism to include as possible allies in the fight against home rule on transit problems the Senators from Utica, Syracuse and Rochester, which communities are bound to be affected as much by the proposed legislation as New York. It seems safe also to count upon the Senator from Westchester County. Thus there is a possible—or should I say probable?—vote of 30 against the tri-headed State Commission to 21 for. In any event, the 26-25 vote seems as certain as one can figure.

The proposition in the House is not quite so rosy, although control of the Senate will be sufficient to kill the Governor's idea. The solid New York delegation numbers 62 out of a total of 150. Two additional Democrats (Merrigan of Albany and Beasley of Erie) give a start of 64 toward the needed 76 votes constituting the majority.

The up-State cities give the following Republicans: Buffalo, 6; Rochester, 2; Utica, 1; Syracuse, 2; and Schenectady, 2. Added to the other 64, the combined city and Democratic vote is 77, one more than a majority. The solid Westchester delegation of five Republicans probably can be counted on as additional support.

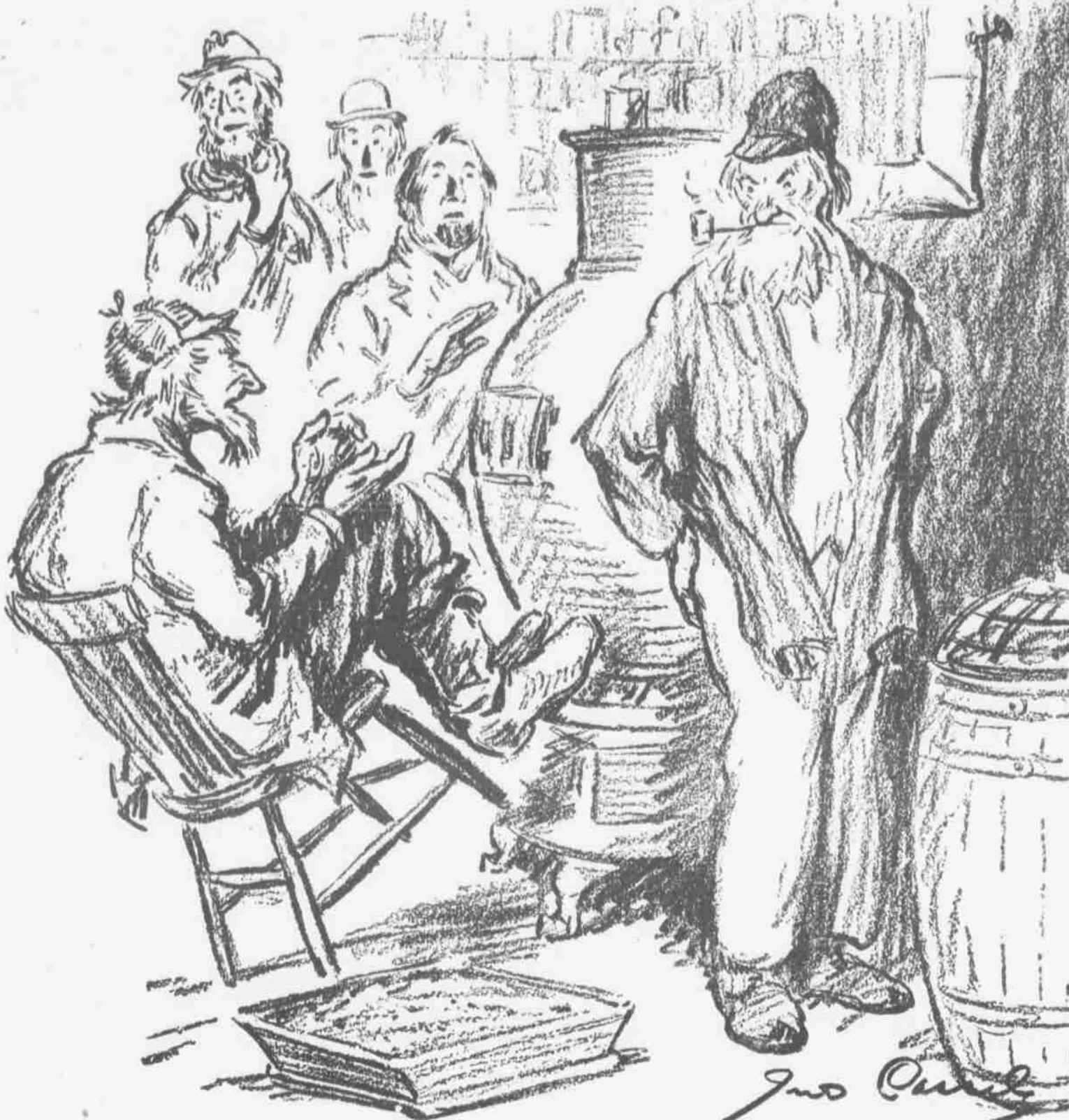
I wish to make it clear that in arriving at this vote in both Houses I have considered only the largest cities. Such municipalities as Albany, Binghamton, Elmira and Troy I have failed to consider, although it is not at all certain their votes will go solidly against their own municipal interests.

VICTOR H. LAWN.

Gov. Miller's Traction Commission

By John Cassel

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From Evening World Readers

What kind of a letter do you find most readable? Isn't it the one that gives you the worth of a thousand words in a couple of hundred? There is fine mental exercise and a lot of satisfaction in trying to say much in a few words. Take time to be brief.

The Fordney Fake.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
I am reading with interest your article with reference to the "Fordney Emergency Tariff Bill" and its effects on sugar, and write to commend you on the stand you have taken. More power to you.
GEORGE S. EATON.
151 Edgecombe Ave., Jan. 23, 1921.

The Plum Tree.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
Our National tree is the plum tree. Uncle Sam shakes out billions of dollars' worth of plums every year.
T. S.
Brooklyn, Jan. 21, 1921.

The Automatic Service.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
This is in answer to one F. H. B. of Easttown, N. J., regarding the introduction of the automatic telephone to us. "Easters," does F. H. B. know that we "Easters" use the telephone for other business than calling a doctor or an undertaker? Special equipment had to be designed and made to meet this excess traffic. Automatic service is now used in Columbus, Chicago, Omaha, Kansas City and several other Western towns and was installed there more for trial than anything else. I understand great improvements have been made until now it is ready to introduce to us "Easters" who live in a regular city.
CHARLES A. GILMORE.
New York, Jan. 25, 1921.

Good! Insure All Vehicles.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
Whatever arguments can be brought forward in behalf of Workmen's Compensation Acts can also be urged for requiring every auto, commercial or pleasure, to be insured against accidents whereby any person sustains injury; some outward, visible sign showing that such insurance is carried, should be placed in position.

I have known several instances where victims of autos were severely injured—one was killed. At this present time a man I know, whose leg was broken and injured him at his own door. Having won a verdict of \$2,000 in June last he finds it impossible to collect anything, the bankruptcy laws having afforded the auto owner a refuge. He appeals, and seems so far to have succeeded, for relief from all debts as well as the \$2,000 judgment. Your paper should start at once an agitation for a law, as soon as it can be put through, for a compulsory auto insurance law.
R. P. G.

Girls on the Square.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
This is for the benefit of S. J. E. and a few more like him:
You say there are three classes of girls to-day: First, the "Painted Baby Dolls," second, the "Shrews"

Type," third, the "Trim, Old-Maidish Brides." Why, you dear little boy! You've so much to learn yet! Take it from me, "she" is not the unknown quantity. I'll admit there are lots of your three classes, but you can find a "happy medium" if you go about it in the right way.

May I ask, Mr. S. J. E., where you've met the friends that have made you say what you've said? I am a business girl, but I've never had a fellow arrested for flirting with me (and lots of fellows have done it); I powder but I don't paint; I go to basketball games once in a while and the family enjoys it, too. Still, I stay home two or three nights a week. My three girl friends are the same and there are lots more like us. Don't forget, S. J. E., that for every boy who's on the level there's a girl who's on the square.
MARGY CULLEN

The Prison Guard's Job.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
Your editorials for a good many years have dealt out columns upon columns of praise for the Police Department's work in different instances. I've yet to see an editorial of yours praising the prison keepers, who are more worthy of praise than the police are. Do you know that a keeper sometimes has as many as forty men to watch and keep from making an escape? A policeman makes an arrest of a notorious bandit and there are columns of praise written about him, and not a word of the keeper who keeps this man and thirty-nine others from escaping once he is arrested. How often do you hear of a prisoner slipping away from a policeman? An everyday occurrence these days. A keeper is underpaid for the work he does and has more responsibility, and never a word is mentioned of his trustworthiness.
Give the prison keeper a boost once in a while. They deserve it more than the "cops."
New York, Jan. 20, 1921.

A Solace and Inspiration.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
Among the many good things that come to us through your invaluable paper there is nothing I prize more highly than the sermons of Thomas H. Gregory. The world is woefully in need of such sermons to-day. There would be no empty pews, no millions unmindful of the work of the churches generally either now or in the past, had he been treated to sermons of the Gregory type.
In his Statement of the Bible, No. 12—Isaiah—we read that this famous prophet lived somewhere around 750 B. C. and the burden of his eloquence was ever the same—the righteousness and power of Jehovah flaming against the wickedness of man. And first among the wicked doings of men he mentions the amassers of land—the covetous amassers of land, as the prophet puts it. Then he attacks their superstitions which the churches

UNCOMMON SENSE

By John Blake

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EVERYBODY'S UNIVERSITY.

There are in the world people who talk interestingly and wisely, and people who talk dully and stupidly.

There are people who know what is going on in the world and are intelligent enough to speculate about the reasons for it.

There are people who take a live interest in their country and its affairs, who vote wisely and who think wisely.

These are the interesting people. They are interesting because they know what is going on. And they know what is going on because they read the newspapers.

The newspapers are everybody's university. Nobody in England or America need be uneducated if he will read the newspapers carefully and intelligently.

They present to you every day the happenings of the world, with comment on it if you care for comment.

They give you the biographies of all men who rise to success. They tell you of all the inventions that are made, of all progress in science and in education.

The man who reads the newspapers and thinks about what he reads will soon be an educated man. He will talk intelligently because he will think intelligently. Education is merely a knowledge of the world, and there is no way in which a knowledge of the world can be gained so easily as by discovering what is going on in the world and why.

All able statesmen, all interesting writers, all thoughtful men are careful students of life. And it is in the newspapers, which are the record of life, that they do their studying.

When a man tells you he merely skims the headlines of the papers and is wearied with the mass of details they print, set him down as a stupid man. When you hear a man talk wisely about human affairs, set him down as a careful newspaper reader.

The agency that scours the world for its daily happenings and condenses them for your morning reading is a better university than any you are likely to attend. Make use of it and you will have no excuse for growing up in ignorance.

who centuries later said, "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Therefore by their fruits ye shall know them." To those who, like the writer, have not the privilege of hearing good sermons every day, these statements of the Bible as given in The Evening World are a constant solace and inspiration.

JOSE THORPE PRICE.

Inwood, L. I., Jan. 22, 1921.

The Reason for Crime.

To the Editor of The Evening World:
The Police Commissioner showed his ignorance in stating that the recent Christmas robberies were caused by the bandits wanting money to buy Christmas gifts for their girls. I notice that Christmas has passed and the robberies are still going on. We will have more robberies and hold-ups for they are all caused by unemployment.
CITIZEN.
New York, Jan. 22, 1921.

Poets of the Bible

By Rev. Thomas B. Gregory.

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No. 2: ECCLESIASTES.

The wonderful prose poem known as "Ecclesiastes" belongs to the series of so-called "Wisdom Books," such as "The Wisdom of Solomon," the "Wisdom of the Son of Sirach," "Proverbs" and "Ecclesiastes," dating from about 220 B. C. to 120 B. C. The date of Ecclesiastes is around 200 B. C.

Its author, therefore, was not King Solomon, but some Hellenized Jew, probably of the City of Alexandria, Egypt. By the third century B. C. the Greek cynical philosophy was firmly established in that city, and in "Ecclesiastes" the influence of that philosophy is quite evident.

The subject of the book is Life—man's life here on this earth—and because of the subject, together with the fact that the unknown author was a man of supreme genius, it is perhaps the most fascinating composition in the world.

In every whole man's soul there is the permanent possibility of the ranker pessimism, and the conditions being forthcoming, the pessimism asserts itself in unmistakable fashion.

We see it in Homer, in Shakespeare, in Tasso and Dante, in Carliale, Schopenhauer and Leopardi, but in none of them does the disease take hold of us as it does in Ecclesiastes.

As an artist—that is to say, in the art of putting things—the "Great Unknown" of the city of the Ptolemies overtops them all. For a long time the authorities devoted their attention as to whether Ecclesiastes should be included in the Canon, as many being against it as for it, but fortunately it was finally admitted.

It would have been calamity of the first order to have permitted this wonderful work to drop into oblivion.

It fills a place in the intellectual world that could have been filled by no other production of the human mind.

As the duck's foot fits the mud so does this book fit our occasional moods. To every one who has any brains at all there now and then comes the hour when he feels like taking a jump into the bottomless pit, or if that is putting it too strongly, when he feels like going off into the desert or the wilderness and kicking himself into fragments. Everything is wrong and nothing is right. The whole framework of things is out of joint. The sun is not bright; the flowers are not sweet; friendship is a lie and love a cheat. The "mighty maze" seems to be going to the devil—and we are glad of it, for it should never have been started in the first place.

And when such mood possesses us there is nothing like a good dose of the pessimism of Ecclesiastes. At such times it is just what the system calls for—vociferously, imperatively, uncompromisingly!

At such time to turn to the Beatitudes and the twenty-third Psalm, or to Emerson's "Over-soul" and the "Imitation" of St. Thomas à Kempis, would be mockery of the deepest dye. When the devil of despair is at grinding at us we are in no state of mind to enjoy the faces of the good angels. Devils and still more devils is what we need.

What we NEED, I say, according to the old eternal truth that it is the "hair of the dog that cures the bite."

For, look you! After wallowing in his pessimism, and enjoying it as the cat enjoys rolling in the catnip, the author all of a sudden sees a star blinking through the clouds and cries out: "This is the end of the matter. Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man."

LEARNING OUR LANGUAGE.

Among the many non-English speaking foreigners recently registered at the Seward Park Branch of the New York Public Library is a girl just arrived from Brest-Litovsk. Although she could not yet read English, she wanted a copy of a geometry. Her interpreter explained that she knew geometry in Russian and could work out some of the English explanations, using the geometrical ideas as a sort of Esperanto. She explained at our lavish use of paper for books and magazines, since in Brest-Litovsk it is almost impossible to procure. Two other foreigners recently registered at the same branch library are Russian children who came to America by way of Egypt, where they waited a week to join an uncle who was returning with the Jewish Legion from Palestine. The boys, aged six and nine, wished French books, as they had learned the language in a school in which they had lived for that short time. Their English was more fluent than easy to understand, but then, they had lived here only a month.

"That's a Fact"

By Albert P. Southwick

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U. S. Grant and Theodore Roosevelt were both less than forty-seven years old when inaugurated, the latter being six months younger than the former. Roosevelt had served as Acting President from September, 1901, to March, 1905.

In the French dynasty the Capets ruled from Hugh Capet, "The Great," in 987, through Louis IX. (St. Louis) in 1226 to Charles IV. "The Handsome," in 1322.

A deaf and dumb asylum was founded in England in 1760, the first in the United States being at Hartford, Conn., in 1817.

The "Missouri Compromise," restricting slavery to 36 degrees 30 minutes, was passed on March 3, 1820, and repealed on May 24, 1854.

The Rialto (bridge) at Venice, Italy, is said to have been built from the ruins of the Colosseum. It is a single marble arch, 954 feet long, and was completed in 1591.

The Bridge of Sighs at Venice, over which condemned prisoners were transported from the Hall of Judgment to the place of execution, was built in 1593.

The Norman style of architecture, in its ascendancy from 1066 to 1154, consisted of round-headed doorways and windows; the aisles divided from the nave by columns of vast size; mouldings accurate and scientific. Noted examples are the Cathedrals of Peterborough, Durham, Norwich and Ely, in England.